Conference on Disarmament

17 August 2018

Original: English

Note verbale dated 17 August 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament

The Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the United Nations Office in Geneva (Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament) and has the honour to refer to the 2018 session of the Conference on Disarmament.

In this connection, the Permanent Mission of Tunisia, in its capacity as President of the Conference on Disarmament, requests that the document entitled "Draft decision" issued under the symbol CD/WP.609, be registered as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament for the session 2018.

The Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office in Geneva (Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament) the assurances of its highest consideration.

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Please recycle

Draft decision

The Conference on Disarmament,

Aware that progress made in the disarmament sphere contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming its role as the single multilateral negotiating body for disarmament,

Emphasizing that, in that role, it has a responsibility to identify ways and means for movingforward with its consideration of disarmament issues,

Recalling its decisions CD/2119 and CD/2126, whereby it established five subsidiary bodies as set out in paragraph 1 of decision CD/2119,

Recalling also the applicable provisions of its rules of procedure relating to the responsibility of the President to propose a programme of work for the Conference,

Considering that dialogue among its member States is essential for moving forward in its consideration of the various items on its agenda, in particular with a view to establishing a programme of work,

Noting that in-depth, substantive discussions have taken place thus far within the various subsidiary bodies established pursuant to decision CD/2119,

Taking note of the initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations entitled "Agenda for Disarmament", as contained in an unofficial document,

Believing that this initiative could enrich the discussion within the Conference with a view to establishing a programme of work,

Decides

1. To establish, pursuant to rules 22 and 23 of its rules of procedure, an informal working group to discuss issues raised in the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General that are pertinent to the mandate of the Conference;

2. That the President of the Conference shall conduct the work of the group using the format of informal discussions among member States with the participation of experts and representatives of the United Nations;

3. That the working group shall begin its work once the coordinators of the five subsidiary bodies have presented their respective reports pursuant to decision CD/2119;

4. That, pursuant to rule 35 of its rules of procedure, participation in the working group is open to all States members of the Conference on Disarmament and to those States not members of the Conference that have been invited to take part in the work of the Conference at its 2018 session;

5. That the organization of work within the working group and the follow-up thereto should be agreed by the working group itself.